

Tribal Engagement Summary

Respectful and thoughtful engagement of Michigan's federally recognized sovereign tribal governments and tribal organizations has been an important component of the OGL's outreach efforts to develop the Water Strategy. During the initial development process for the Water Strategy, the OGL invited each of the federally recognized tribes and tribal organizations to participate in a state hosted conference call. The tribal representatives were asked how they would like to engage and be involved in the development of the water strategy. The tribes provided the OGL with specific input and points of engagement for their involvement in the development of the water strategy. The engagement process included:

- Establishing primary points of engagement within tribal governments and organizations;
- Hosting a series of calls with the tribes, and presenting/discussing the strategy at various tribal meetings;
- Inviting tribal participation on an advisory committee called the "Water Cabinet," which met throughout the development of the draft to develop a vision, goals and outcomes;
- Inviting tribes to participate in the regional economic roundtables and community dialogues held in around the state in 2013 and 2015;
- Meeting with the tribes on a number of occasions through the Michigan Tribal Environmental Group (MTEG), United Tribes of Michigan and other forums.

The OGL also received funding from the Erb Family Foundation for the Michigan's Water Heritage Pilot Project and hosted an event with the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians during Earth Week to share intergenerational accounts/storytelling of water-related experiences in the tribal community.

The OGL also requested and held formal consultation with the tribes on the draft Water Strategy in January 2016 to further discuss how best to incorporate the tribes, their interests and roles within the Water Strategy and its implementation. Participants in formal consultation are listed below.

From the engagement process, the OGL received written comments from some of the tribes. Comments were also made during a series of ongoing conversations with the tribes throughout the development process. Recurring themes included:

- Prioritizing tribal consultation and collaboration in implementation;

- Surface and groundwater monitoring;
- Addressing climate change;
- Implementing green infrastructure
- Recognizing the role of tribal governments in co-management of a shared water resource;
- Pollution prevention, at the source from extractive industry operations and movement of oil/gas via pipelines;
- Emphasizing the importance of protection of resources; rather than having to remediate costly environmental and economic damages.
- Balancing of protection and economic growth;
- Recognizing value of subsistence economies;
- Importance of wild rice restoration efforts.

Conversations with the tribes have been deeply valuable during the development process and a prime example of effective government to government consultation.

January 6, 2016 Formal Consultation between Tribes and State of Michigan Participant List

JoAnne Cook, Grand Traverse Band of Odawa Indians
Aubrey Maccoux-LeDuc, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Caroline Keson, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Bree Bennett, DEQ-Water Resources Division
Brian Wesolek, Bay Mills Indian Community
Matt Konieczki, Bay Mills Indian Community
Kathleen Brosemer, Sault Tribe
Tim Davis, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Dennis Knapp, Department of Natural Resources
Tom St. Dennis, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Jennifer Kanine, Pokagon Band
Matt Wesaw, Pokagon Band
Bill Rastetter, Grand Traverse Band of Odawa Indians
Daugherty Johnson, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Frank Ettawageshik, United Tribes of Michigan, SSM, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Mark Parrish, Pokagon Band
Doug Craven, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Allison Smart, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Homer A. Mandoka, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi
Rachel Cromell, Office of the Great Lakes
Jon Allan, Office of the Great Lakes
Emily Finnell, Office of the Great Lakes
Molly Rippke, DEQ, Water Resource Division
Steve Winchester, Pokagon Band
John Rodwan, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians
Andrea Jackson, Pokagon Band
Sally Kniffen, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Carey Pauquette, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Laura Doud, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Amanda Oldman, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Tribal Council
Beth Spedowski, Lac Vieux Desert
Regina Gasco-Bentley, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Stacy Bowerman, Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Trever Friedsborg, MEDC
Ray Nelson, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe